

AGENCY  
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6 NOV 1947

Mr. Henry E. Vizetelly, Editor  
The New International Year Book  
Funk & Wagnalls Company  
153 East 24th Street  
New York, 10, New York

My dear Mr. Vizetelly:

Reference is made to our previous correspondence, in which it was agreed to furnish you with a short article covering the history of the National Intelligence Authority for the 1948 edition of the New International Year Book.

It is hoped that the enclosed article will be satisfactory for your purposes.

Very truly yours,

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R. H. HARRIS  
DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

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Proposed text of THE NEW INTERNATIONAL YEAR BOOK Article

The National Intelligence Authority was created by Presidential letter of 22 January 1946. It was composed of the Secretaries of State, War, and the Navy, and the President's personal representative, Fleet Admiral Leahy. The function of the Authority was to plan, develop and coordinate all Federal foreign intelligence activities so as to assure the most effective accomplishment of the intelligence mission related to the national security. The Authority was superseded by the National Security Council, under the provisions of the National Security Act of 1947.

The President's letter of 22 January 1946 also created a Central Intelligence Group, to assist the National Intelligence Authority in the fulfillment of its mission. The Central Intelligence Group was abolished by the National Security Act of 1947, and its personnel, property and records were transferred to the Central Intelligence Agency newly created by that Act.

The National Security Act of 1947 provides that, for the purpose of coordinating the intelligence activities of the government, it shall be the duty of the Agency (under the direction of the National Security Council):

- (1) to advise the National Security Council in matters concerning such intelligence activities of the Government departments and agencies as relate to national security, and to make recommendations to the Council for their coordination;
- (2) to correlate and evaluate intelligence relating to the national security, and provide for its appropriate dissemination within the Government;
- (3) to perform, for the benefit of the existing intelligence agencies, such additional services of common concern as the National Security Council determines can be more efficiently accomplished centrally;
- (4) to perform such other functions and duties related to intelligence affecting the national security as the National Security Council may from time to time direct.

The Act also provides that the Departments and other agencies of the Government shall continue to collect, evaluate, correlate, and disseminate departmental intelligence.

Further, the law specifically provides that the Agency shall have no police, subpoena, or law enforcement powers, or international security functions. However, the Director is responsible for protecting intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure.

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Director's file

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